

Public Health Announces 172 Additional Positive Cases of COVID-19, 11 New Deaths of Delawareans

SMYRNA (May 8, 2020) – The Delaware Division of Public Health (DPH) is announcing 11 additional fatalities related to coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) and is providing an update on the number of positive cases and recovered individuals. All data reported through the daily updates are based on data received as of 6 p.m. the previous day.

In total, 213 Delawareans have passed away due to complications from COVID-19. Individuals who have died from COVID-19 ranged in age from 26 to 103 years old. Of those who have died, 112 were females and 101 were males. A total of 91 individuals were from New Castle County, 36 were from Kent County, and 86 were from Sussex County.

DPH will provide demographic information for COVID-19-related deaths in aggregate only, and will no longer provide demographics of each individual person who died.

The most recent deaths announced today ranged in age from 55 to 99. Four were female and seven were male. Two were New Castle County residents, two were Kent County residents, and seven were Sussex County residents. Ten of the eleven individuals had underlying health conditions. Seven individuals were residents of long-term care facilities.

To protect personal health information, DPH will not confirm specific information about any individual case, even if other persons or entities disclose it independently.

The latest Delaware COVID-19 case statistics* cumulatively

since March 11, provided as of 6 p.m., Thursday, May 7, include:

- 6,111 total positive cases
- New Castle County cases: 2,184
- Kent County cases: 963
- Sussex County cases: 2,936
- Unknown County: 28
- Females: 3,319; Males: 2,773; Unknown: 19
- Age range: 0 to 103
- Currently hospitalized: 289; Critically ill: 59 (This data represents individuals currently hospitalized in a Delaware hospital regardless of residence, and is not cumulative.)
- Delawareans recovered: 2,288
- 22,153 negative cases**

**Data are provisional and subject to change.*

***Data on negative cases are preliminary, based on negative results reported to DPH by state and commercial laboratories performing analysis.*

Additional demographic data on COVID-19 cases and deaths, including race/ethnicity, more age-specific data and rates information by ZIP code, can be found on the Division of Public Health's My Healthy Community data portal.

Expanded community testing is occurring in Sussex County. Sites can be found at: <https://coronavirus.delaware.gov/testing/>. These sites do not require a physician's order. These community testing sites are for community members and employees along the Route 113 corridor in Sussex County, including areas as far west as Seaford/Laurel with a focus on employees of essential businesses, at-risk populations and their families, those exposed to someone with COVID-19, or someone caring for a sick family member with COVID-19. The hours of operation for these sites may be limited by the number of supplies available for the specific event.

Delaware is considering patients fully recovered seven days after the resolution of their symptoms. Three days after symptoms resolve, patients are no longer required to self-isolate at home; however, they must continue to practice strict social distancing for the remaining four days before returning to their normal daily routine.

Long-term Care Statistics

Information related to positive cases and deaths among residents at long-term care facilities will be updated weekly on Friday, using information reported as of 6 p.m. Thursday. There have been a total of 450 positive COVID-19 cases cumulatively involving long-term care residents, and 137 residents of Delaware long-term care facilities have died from complications related to COVID-19. The locations and number of deaths related to long-term care facilities are:

- Atlantic Shores Rehabilitation and Health Center, Millsboro (7)
- Brackenville Center, Genesis Healthcare, Hockessin (5)
- Brandywine Nursing and Rehabilitation Center, Wilmington (16)
- Cadia Broadmeadow, Middletown (6)
- Delaware Psychiatric Center, New Castle (2)
- Delaware Hospital for the Chronically Ill, Smyrna (6)
- Governor Bacon Health Center, Delaware City (1)
- Harbor Healthcare and Rehabilitation, Lewes (3)
- Harrison House Senior Living, Georgetown (14)
- Hillside Center, Wilmington (3)
- Little Sisters of the Poor, Newark (11)
- ManorCare Health Services, Wilmington (4)
- Methodist Country House, Wilmington (3)
- Milford Center, Genesis Healthcare, Milford (30)
- New Castle Health and Rehabilitation Center, New Castle (7)
- Parkview Nursing and Rehabilitation, Wilmington (4)
- Pinnacle Rehabilitation and Health Center, Smyrna (5)

- Westminster Village, Dover (2)
- Seven other New Castle County long-term care facilities (1 death at each facility)
- One Sussex County long-term care facility (1 death at the facility)

If you are sick with any of the following symptoms, stay home: fever, cough, shortness of breath, sore throat, muscle fatigue, chills, shaking with chills, loss of smell or taste. Other symptoms such as headache or digestive symptoms (vomiting, diarrhea, abdominal pain or lack of appetite) have been identified as potential symptoms related to COVID-19 and may prompt further screening, action or investigation. If you are sick and need essential supplies, ask someone else to go to the grocery store or the pharmacy to get what you need.

If you believe you have been exposed to someone with COVID-19, or have symptoms of illness, make sure to distance yourself from others, particularly vulnerable populations. Older adults and people of any age with serious underlying medical conditions – including serious heart conditions, chronic lung conditions, including moderate to severe asthma, severe obesity and those who are immunocompromised, including through cancer treatment – may have a higher risk for severe illness from COVID-19.

Statewide testing at standing health facility testing sites require a physician's order or prescription to be tested (*Bayhealth patients will be pre-screened via phone without needing to see a provider first). These are not walk-in testing sites. Those without a primary care provider can call the DPH Call Center Line at 1-866-408-1899. In New Castle County, individuals can call ChristianaCare at 1-302-733-1000 and Sussex County residents who do not have a provider can call the Beebe COVID-19 Screening Line at 302-645-3200. Individuals awaiting test results should wait to hear back from their medical provider. The DPH Call Center does not have test results.

This morning, the Governor announced a significant statewide expansion of the state's COVID-19 testing program, in partnership with Delaware's hospital systems, community health care centers, primary care physicians, and long-term care facilities. The new testing program will allow the State of Delaware to conduct 80,000 tests monthly – more than four times the current level of testing statewide.

Anyone with a question about COVID-19, whether related to medical or social service needs, should call Delaware 2-1-1. Individuals who are deaf or hard of hearing can text their ZIP code to 898-211. Hours of operation are 8 a.m. to 9 p.m. Monday through Friday; 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday and Sunday.

In addition, the Division of Public Health asks any Delaware health care, long-term care, residential, or other high-risk facility with questions or concerns to email: DPH_PAC@delaware.gov or call the DPH Call Center at 1-866-408-1899 and press ext. 2.

Questions can also be submitted by email at DPHCall@delaware.gov.

DPH will continue to update the public as more information becomes available. For the latest on Delaware's response, go to de.gov/coronavirus.